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Working for the Great Outdoors

USDA FOREST SERVICE

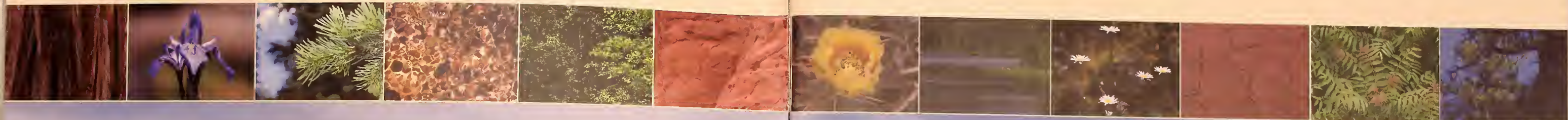


Caring for the Land



National forests and grasslands belong to the American people. The intelligent management of our natural resources for the people is our mission. In this area of growing national and global importance, Forest Service employees are engaged in five primary areas of activity: We protect and manage natural resources on National Forest System lands • We initiate and perform research in forestry, rangeland and watershed management, fish and wildlife conservation, social sciences, and forest resource utilization • We provide community

Caring for the Land and Serving People



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assistance and we cooperate with State and local government agencies, businesses, and private landowners to help protect and manage non-Federal forest and associated range and watershed lands • We work in partnership with many public agencies and private sector entities to improve conditions in wildland/urban interfaces and rural areas, and to prevent and fight wildfires • We contribute international assistance in formulating policy and coordinating U.S. support for the protection and sound management of forest resources throughout the world.

It's All Happening in the Great Outdoors!

Fifty-one thousand square miles of some of the most magnificent lands in America. That's today's USDA Forest Service. Managing these lands in the most effective way for water, air, wildlife, and people is a great responsibility.

Providing stewardship in ways that best serve the American people today and in future generations is a splendid challenge. There's never been a more exciting and opportunity-filled time for you to join the Nation's premier forest management agency.

"Magnificent beyond imagining!" President Theodore Roosevelt said before he set up a new government agency to administer the vast western forests and rangelands. Today, our mission within the U.S. Department of Agriculture extends nationwide, as well as worldwide.

Forest Service employees work in a wide range of occupations in the public forests and grasslands, with States and in international programs. Anyone who has visited a national forest has seen the results of the work we perform, but there is so much going on behind the scenes in the Forest Service every day.

- Foresters are on the frontline of responsible land stewardship.
- Researchers in land management, including physical and biological sciences like hydrology, silviculture, wildlife and fisheries, and much more are pursuing exciting fields of study.
- Fire managers are planning and leading campaigns against one of the most dangerous threats to human life and public lands.
- Public affairs professionals are optimizing interaction and cooperation with communities, landowners, and individuals.
- Recreation specialists are ensuring that people have many ways to enjoy the public lands we manage for the Nation.
- Teachers, social scientists, psychologists, vocational instructors, and business administrators are managing our many volunteer and human resource development programs, such as Job Corps and the Senior Community Service Employment program.
- Experts in information technology and computer science, geographic information systems, engineering, business, finance, and a host of other occupations are supporting our agency's mission.

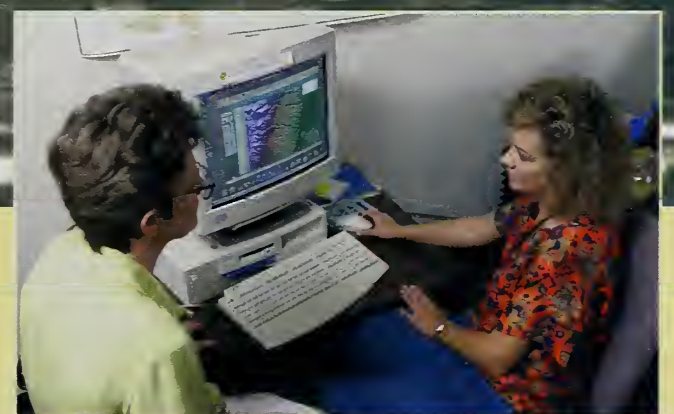


“I wanted a career with a respected organization that was large enough to give me room to grow and change directions during my career. The Forest Service has all that and more.”

Today's Forest Service is growing in scope of responsibility and in the people power needed to perform our national mission.



“For me, being out under the trees sure beats working in an office cubicle like most jobs today.”



Learning from others increases your job skills and helps you develop new ones that are valuable in your career.

Collaboration and teamwork are always important because everything we do involves sharing skills and experience.

Growing Responsibilities Nationwide

There are currently about 30,000 people who make up the Forest Service workforce. They work in some of the most scenic and inspiring areas our Nation has to offer.

While most of our employees work outdoors in national forests and grasslands, many perform their professional duties in offices and research laboratories nationwide.

Managing highly diverse lands and watersheds for the American people provides career challenges that let you apply your skills and interests in work of national importance. Working as a team to meet the direction of Congress, the Forest Service contributes directly to the health and well-being of forests and rangeland, wildlife and fisheries habitat, and clean water and air. This includes everything from providing all-season recreational opportunities to applying the scientific and technical research and expertise that make the Forest Service one of the largest natural resource management research organizations in the world.

- Locally, we work with surrounding communities, landowners, Native American tribes, and government agencies for mutual understanding, safety, and cooperation.
- Regionally, we cooperate with numerous public and private organizations for the protection and management of more than 700 million acres of forest lands that are outside the Federal system.
- Nationally, we utilize all the business, management, information technology, public affairs, and other administrative skills required to coordinate and manage all activities.
- Internationally, we play a global role in helping to link and support organizations and communities around the world, striving to help them protect and manage their forests and wilderness areas.



“Where else could I have this view of nature while I’m working?”



With our various opportunities, you could work for the Forest Service at one of our nationwide offices.



“I’ve enjoyed every minute of my Forest Service career, especially guiding new employees to discover the excitement and the career opportunities.”

Recreational duties might include instructing and monitoring whitewater rafting.

Forest Service employees provide a human connection between young people and the wonders of nature.



Challenge and Change in Natural Resource Careers

The world is changing, and so is the USDA Forest Service. Our fundamental responsibility is still sound and scientific stewardship of forests and grasslands, but how that is delivered to the public is changing.

Exciting advances in science and technology, communications, national and global priorities, and customer expectations are opening new vistas for Forest Service employees.

Many entry-level positions still require particular knowledge and academic credentials in traditionally important areas, such as biology, silviculture, forestry, and ecology. Graduate degrees in these and other key subject-matter areas will increase your chances for career success in research or resource management. We support and encourage employees to improve their expertise through a combination of employer-conducted education and continued classes at academic and training institutions.

In today's Forest Service, other attributes you may possess or acquire are also increasingly important career advantages.

Are you good at teamwork?

Can you interact positively in a give-and-take planning environment?

How is your attitude toward customer service?

Are you computer savvy?

Do you speak a second language?

Are you committed enough to educate yourself further in areas like these?

Can you interact well with the American public?

Are you willing and able to fight fire or provide support to fire suppression duties?

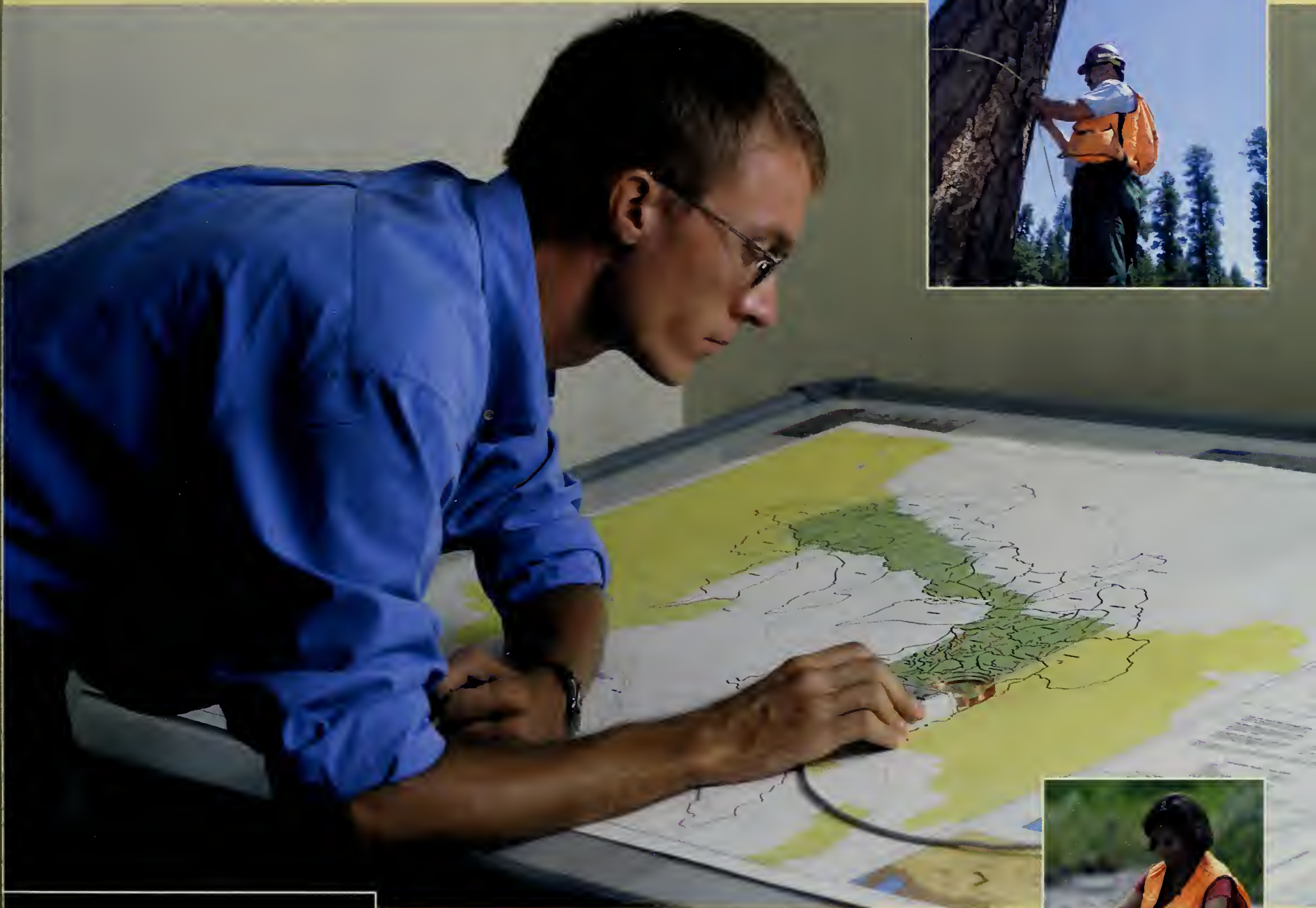
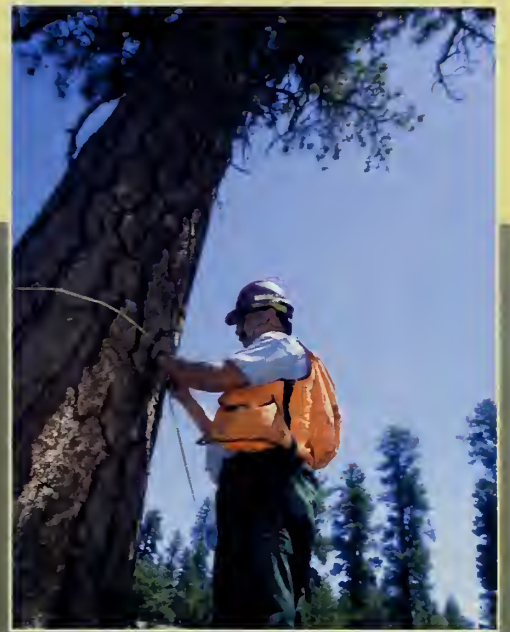
Are you good at problem solving?

So much of our work today involves collaboration with other agencies, local communities, private and tribal landowners, and even international organizations, that these skills are essential to our 21st century customer-service mission.



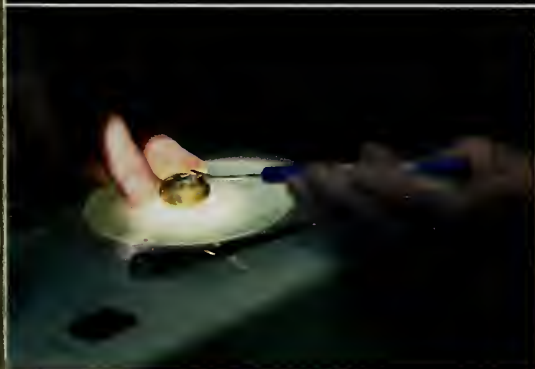
“All through college I heard people talk about effective management of natural resources. In this career, I’m accomplishing what they can only talk about.”

No one contributes more to the health of trees in America than the people of the USDA Forest Service.



Every type of terrestrial ecosystem in the United States is a valid subject for Forest Service research.

“Not all Forest Service employees work outdoors. Many of us work in research laboratories, but we’re all focused first and foremost on the forests.”



A host of scientific and technical skills are required of Forest Service professionals, from GIS mapping to plant biology.



Our scientists divide their time between working outdoors and in our own world-class laboratories and research stations.

Hundreds of Occupations in Hundreds of Locations

There's so much you can do in a Forest Service career. Our extraordinary diversity of occupations and locations makes it easy to find a position to suit your talents.

There are more occupations in the Forest Service than we can describe here. The following is a sample of our exciting careers, and it covers only some of the work our employees perform in these occupations. This is just a taste of what you could be doing in a Forest Service career.

Foresters apply advances in science and technology to ensure development, production, conservation, and utilization of the natural resources of forests and rangelands including timber, soil, land, water, wildlife and fish habitat, minerals, forage, outdoor recreation, and wilderness.

Wildlife Biologists make the forest a healthy environment that meets the needs of wildlife in terms of vegetation, water flow, canopy cover, and other biological requirements.

Research Scientists in a wide range of fields perform original research in our own world-class labs and in university laboratories under cooperative research programs.

Engineers – Civil, Mechanical, and Electrical – are engaged in planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance activities for roads, bridges, trails, buildings, landing strips, wastewater systems, ski lifts, communications systems, and much more.

Public Affairs Specialists work with people whose backyards adjoin the national forest in a "wildland/urban interface" area to help them learn about forest ecology and how they can protect their families and property.

Entomologists conduct pest surveys and provide pest identification information and management options to land managers and to Forest Service colleagues in other scientific research disciplines.

Social Scientists conduct visitor satisfaction studies at ski areas, national recreation areas, and campgrounds across the country to improve understanding about how natural resources and people interact.

Helitack, Smokejumpers, Hotshots, and Handcrew members travel the country to suppress wildfires. Fire Managers plan highly controlled, prescribed fires to improve the forest ecosystem.

Fuels Planners evaluate forest ground level and underground conditions with regard to shrubs, grasses, and other vegetation in order to reduce potential fuels that could feed an uncontrolled wildfire.

Geographic Information Specialists work with satellite imagery and map overlays of thousands of acres as part of major projects, such as collaborative watershed projects with State and local agencies.

Hydrologists work to stabilize and restore watershed ecosystems that have been degraded by development or agricultural practices that have put native aquatic species at risk.

Recreation Specialists manage recreation sites from Oregon to Florida, helping to plan and manage winter sports areas, wilderness backpacking areas, and a wide variety of trails.

Accountants and Financial Management Specialists are involved in planning and budgeting activities that go into the Forest Service's annual reporting to Congress and the Executive Branch, as well as into managing resources.

Teachers, Social Workers, Psychologists, and Business Administrators in our Job Corps program help young people develop their human resource potential in a natural resource setting.

These are only a few of the hundreds of exciting ways you might apply your skills and follow your interests in the USDA Forest Service.





Much of our laboratory work takes place on university campuses, often in cooperative research programs.



“During wildfire season, the whole world hears about what we’re doing, but there are exciting challenges all year round. I work with people coast to coast and in many foreign countries on fire management and prevention.”



When wildfire gets out of control, Forest Service wildland firefighters are on the frontline protecting life and property.

Special Opportunities, Great Benefits

Many Forest Service employees got their first taste of working for the great outdoors as students, temporary workers, or volunteers. They tried it, they liked it, and now they are full-time employees enjoying fulfilling careers and a great package of Federal Government benefits.

Temporary Employment

Every year, thousands of men and women of all ages all over the country perform temporary work assignments for the Forest Service. These temporary employees, along with thousands of volunteers, are an important part of our organization. They perform a multitude of essential tasks, from participating in research studies to clearing trails, from conducting educational and recreational programs for young people to acting as lookouts for outbreaks of wildfire.

Opportunities for Students

Attention students! The Forest Service also has many opportunities for part-time and temporary employment for high school and college students, including internships and cooperative student opportunities. They're an open door to the great outdoors. It's also a fulfilling way to earn money, gain work experience, do something good for the environment — and maybe lay the foundation for a Forest Service career after graduation. Ask your college career counselor if your institution participates in any Forest Service career program.

Great Federal Benefits

Forest Service employees enjoy a host of benefits in their Federal Government careers. These are designed to mesh with the lives of our diverse workforce in a flexible system that allows you to match benefits choices to needs.

- Certain benefits vary depending on location, but they generally include low-cost health and life insurance; a portable retirement plan; and generous holiday, vacation, and sick leave.
- Nearly all Forest Service locations offer flexible work schedules and work places.
- Most locations provide wellness and personal counseling programs.
- The Forest Service offers valuable training programs to increase career skills and continuing education.
- All positions offer opportunities for personal growth, and we recognize achievement through cash bonus programs and other incentives.

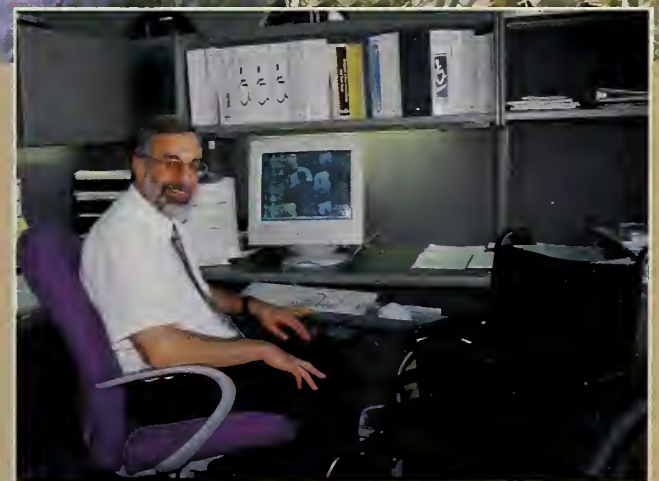
For more details about employee benefits, student opportunities, and temporary employment information, please visit our Website: www.fs.fed.us/fsjobs

“The Forest Service is a wonderful place to work for someone with disabilities. I’m hearing impaired, so I have a TTY plus an interpreter several hours a day. People in wheelchairs and blind employees have special voice-activated computers.”

Our Forest Products Laboratory is
recognized worldwide as the
leading research & development
institution of its kind.



*“The experience I
got as a co-op student
made what I was
learning in college
much more relevant
and gave me a desire
to learn more.”*



Indoors or outdoors, it takes skills in
hundreds of disciplines to accomplish
our nationwide mission.

Come Inside the Great Outdoors!

If the ecology and wildlife of our national forests and grasslands is important to you, there is no better place to be than the Forest Service. We have an important national mission. And the real worth you deliver will continue to be appreciated by generations to come.

There really is no other career like a Forest Service career. Where would you like to live and work? Close to home or another part of the country? Our great diversity of occupations and locations nationwide means that you can probably find a position to suit your talents and your choice of where to live.

Our diversity of occupations also requires a wide diversity of people in our workforce. The Forest Service works for all Americans, and we have a genuine commitment to hiring men and women from every part of the Nation, and from all ethnic and social backgrounds.

The outdoors is inviting you in! For more information about the USDA Forest Service, go to our Website, where you can find out the best way to submit your employment application. Apply today to take the first step into a great career in the great outdoors.

www.fs.fed.us/fsjobs



From forests to mountains to grasslands, the men and women of the Forest Service care for the land and serve people every day.



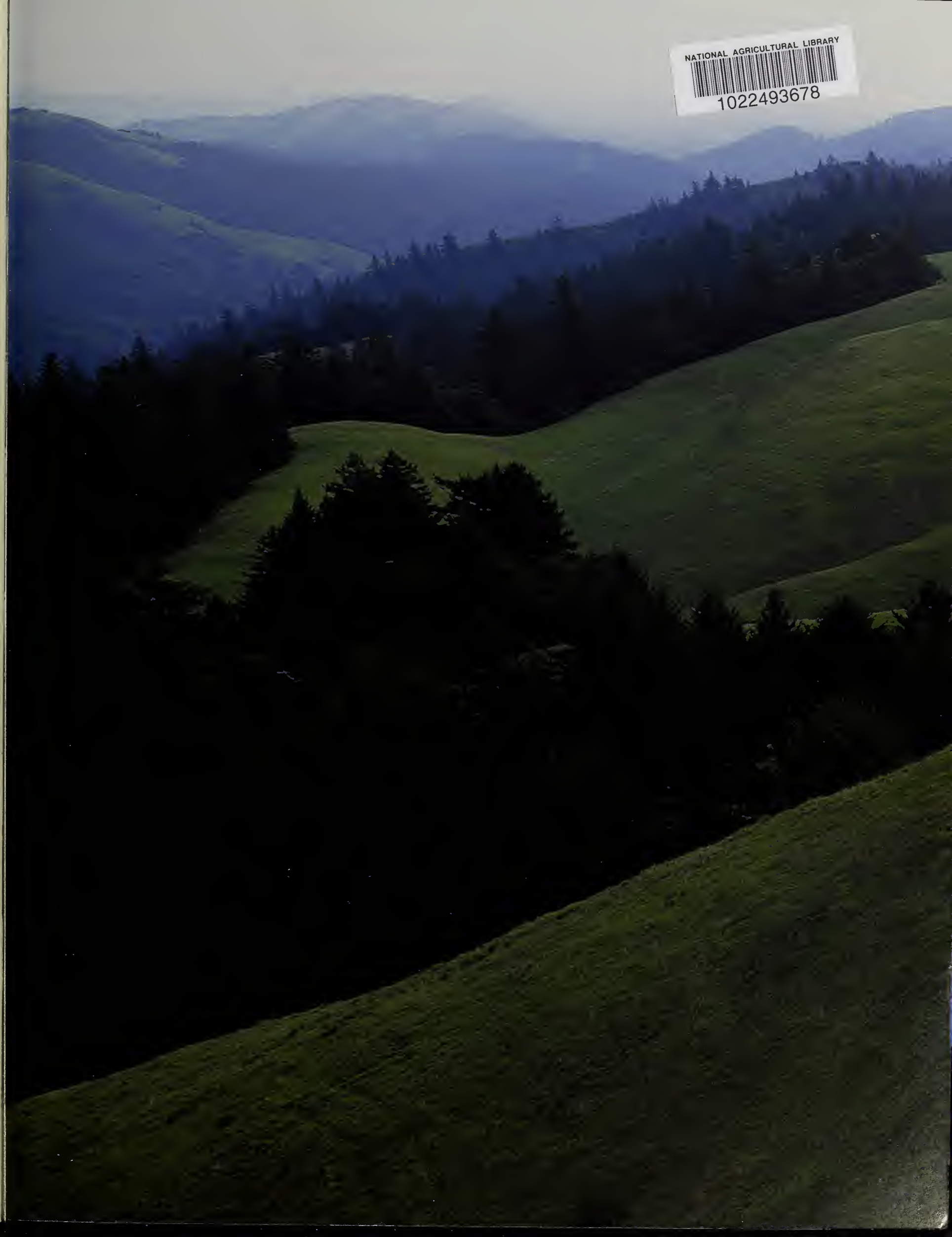
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There are over 30,000 individuals who make up the USDA Forest Service. They work in hundreds of diverse occupations for one common mission — to care for the land and serve people.

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